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that are broken and stained, if they are nicely cleaned and washed over, it will harden and make them look well when they are pressed, as it will take out the creases, and prevent any acid that they have been cleaned with from rotting the paper.

Specimen, No. 4,

Is washed half over on purpose that the gentlemen may see the utility of it, and try the effect of it with a pencil and colour, and to show that it does not stain or injure the paper in the least. I was obliged to do the specimen, No. 3. on blotting-paper, as I could not now get any paper for drawing on without the size; but if this method is approved of, I can get paper for drawing on, of any colour or thickness, by ordering it at the paper manufactory to be made without being sized.

Process for Mr. Cather's Methods of fixing Chalk Drawings.

Specimen, No. 1.

Dissolve one ounce of the clearest gum arabic in one pint of spring water, (beer measure,) then take a piece of the best blotting-paper, according to the size of the drawing, and with a piece of sponge wet it all over; then lay the drawing on a table and lay the wet blotting-paper on the drawing, and press it gently with the hand close to the drawing, so as to just damp the chalk, which may be seen by raising the paper up, and where the chalk is not damp press it on again; and when the chalk is thoroughly wet all over, the paper may be taken off; and in about ten minutes the chalk will be dry and fixed. The blotting-paper must not be too wet, and when you take the paper off the drawing, mind it is not shifted sideways, as that will evidently smear it.

Specimen, No. 2

Dissolve one ounce of the clearest gum arabic in one quart of spring water, (beer measure,) pour it into a dish according to the size of the drawing, then pass the drawing hastily through it, and lay the back of the drawing on a sheet of blotting-paper upon a slanting board, so that the water may drain off; and when the drawing is perfectly dry, you may press it in a port-folio with a weight upon it, and it will be quite flat, but if pressed while it is damp it will cockle.

Specimen, No. 3,

To half an ounce of isinglass add one quart of water, and let it boil for a quarter of an hour in an earthen pipkin, then add two drachms of powdered allum, and when that is dissolved, strain the mixture through a piece of clean linen, and while milk-warm wash the back of the drawing over with a piece of sponge, and take care that nothing rubs the front of the drawing; it must be handled very gently, and when quite dry put in a press.

Specimen, No. 4.

For prints on soft paper; to half an ounce of isinglass you must add two quarts of water, with the same quantity of allum; wash the back of the prints over with it, and when dry they may be coloured with ease; the colours will not sink.

I find that the best method of fixing the chalk on No. 3, the soft paper, is to get a square frame, (such as they strain canvass on for painting,) and tack the drawing on it with eight small nails, the front of the drawing towards the table, then holding the frame slanting, take the solution of isinglass and allum, and with a large camel's hair pencil wash the back all over with it, so as just to wet the paper quite through and no more, and it will dry quite smooth; this method is the best as nothing can damage the front of the drawing, the frame preventing the table or any thing else from rubbing the chalk or crayons, if ever so highly finished. The camel's hair pencil is better for use than the sponge, as you may use it more gently and with greater ease.

Account of a domestic Filter for purifying Water; by M. Alexander, of Bordeaux.

(From the Transactions of the Medical Society of Bordeaux)

M. Alexander uses neither sand nor sponge, nor pounded charcoal, but he simply causes the water to pass through capillary tubes which are formed of half worn out calico. We know that a ribbon which soaks in a vessel and hangs on the outside, soon serves as a conductor to the liquor, which filters and runs out until the vessel is nearly empty. M. Alexander has applied this experiment in natural philosophy to purify, in the large way, the waters of the Garonne; and the Medical society of Bordeaux have made a favourable report of it.